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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/438,652
Filing Date	November 12, 1999
First Named Inventor	NOBUO SASAKI
Art Unit	2672
Examiner Name	M. GOOD JOHNSON
Attorney Docket Number	SCEI 16.677

DEC 23 2003
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

a. Previously submittedi. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on November 12, 2003
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on DEC 31 2003iii. Other _____b. Enclosedi. Amendment/Replyiii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iv. Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, toDeposit Account No. 50-1290Filed by Express Mail
(Receipt No. 51918014891245
on DEC 23 2003
pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10.i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)iii. Other _____b. Check in the amount of \$_____ enclosedby Frances Doylec. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Brian S. Myers	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,947
Signature	<u>Brian S. Myers</u>	Date	December 23, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)		Date
Signature		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.